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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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MADAGASCAN MINERAL PRODUCTION

MADAGASCAR'S MINERAL PRODUCTION, EXPORTS -- Paris, La Chronique des Mines Coloniales, 15 Aug 52

The following list shows the Madagascan production and export of minerals for the first quarter of 1952 (in tons unless otherwise noted):

<u>Mineral</u>	<u>Production</u>	<u>Exports</u>
Gold (kilograms)	16	--
Mica	244	210
Graphite		
Flakes	3,673	3,205
Powder	1,263	1,299
Precious stones		
Gems (kilograms)	20.7	11.3
Jewel bearings, finished and unfinished (kilograms)	--	160
Beryl, industrial (kilograms)	149,664	60,400
Garnets, industrial (kilograms)	217,964	208,320
Quartz		
For piezoelectric crystals (kilograms)	299	1,654
For ornamentation and cutting (kilograms)	1,212	209

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<u>Mineral</u>	<u>Production</u>	<u>Exports</u>
For smelting (kilograms)	2,514	1,044
Tourmaline, black, opaque (kilograms)	13	--
Kaolin	9	--
Bastnasite	3	1
Columbite	3	1.4
Carbon	664	--

GRAPHITE PRODUCTION IN TAMATAVE PROVINCE -- Marseille, L'Antenne, 12 Dec 52

The most important graphite deposits now being exploited in Tamatave Province are located south of the city of Tamatave and along the Tananarive-Tamatave Railroad in the Ferinet-Moramanga region. These deposits are easily worked without the use of explosives, since the graphite is found in outcroppings of eroded rock. The main producing districts of Tamatave Province are Brickaville, with 70-80 percent of the total; Vatomandry; Moramanga; and Tamatave.

The graphite deposits of Tamatave, which are abundant, are valued highly because they occur in very thick flakes. The flakes are used chiefly in the manufacture of crucibles for smelting metals and alloys. Madagascar supplies most of the graphite flakes that are needed on the world market.

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